

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



Vol. 48, No. 38

www.laughlin.af.mil

Sept. 29, 2000

the inside Scoop

Help wanted:

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Military members planning to retire or separate can complete their initial briefings using personal computers from their homes ...

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Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 00-15 graduates...

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Mission status

(As of Sept. 27)

Days ahead(+) or behind(-)

	+ 2
	+ .92
	+ 2.05

Fiscal Year 2000 statistics

--Sorties flown: 68,832
--Hours flown: 101,974.6
--Pilot wings earned in FY 00: 320
--Wings earned since 1963: 11,685

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

educates on importance of early detection

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This nationwide education campaign is dedicated to increasing awareness of breast cancer issues, especially the importance of early detection. The campaign is aimed at the general public, state and federal governments, health care professionals, employers and women of all ages and ethnic groups.

Breast cancer is the leading cause of death in women ages 35 to 54. Each year, more than 180,000 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed. More than 40,000 women will die from the disease. The good news is, as more breast cancer is detected early, far fewer women will lose their lives.

More than 1.7 million American women with a history of the disease are alive today—mainly because of early detection. Early detection, followed by up-to-date treatment, provides women with a better chance for long-term freedom from the disease and may prevent the necessity of remov-

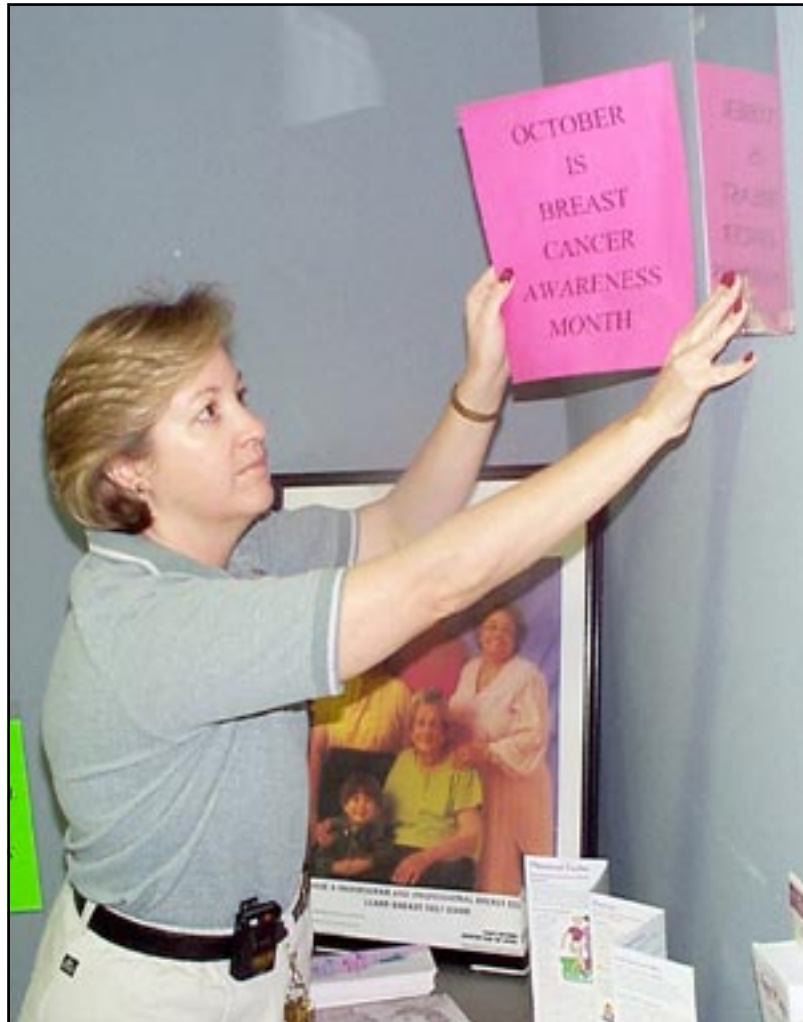


Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Maj. Kerri Wyble, Health and Wellness Center, sets up a Breast Cancer Awareness Month display in the HAWC hallway Tuesday. Another Breast Cancer Awareness Month display will be placed in the Fiesta Center.

ing lymph nodes, undergoing radiation or chemotherapy, or removing a breast.

To ensure early detection, women should:

■ Perform a monthly breast

self-exam. Women should perform self-exams seven to ten days after the start of their menstrual cycle. The Health and Wellness Center has many pamphlets and instructional aides

to assist you in learning the correct way to perform a self-exam. These exams are important because women themselves discover most breast lumps.

■ Have their doctors examine their breasts every year.

■ Have regular mammograms starting at age 40. Mammography is a low-dose breast X-ray that can detect cancerous tumors too small to be felt by hand. Mammography is the best-known method of early detection and should be scheduled every one to two years starting at age 40 and annually from age 50.

Breast cancer cannot be totally prevented, but the following lifestyle habits may help reduce your risk:

□ **Avoid high-fat foods.** Fat may play a role in the development of breast cancer. Studies have also linked high-fat diets to heart disease, stroke and colon cancer.

□ **Eat more fiber.** Foods high in fiber, such as beans, bran, whole grains, fruits and vegetables, may help prevent breast cancer by helping remove excess fat from the body. They may also reduce the risk of heart disease and colorectal cancer.

□ **Don't smoke.** A study by the American Cancer Society

See 'Cancer,' page 6

New base supply system to be implemented

A new base supply system is scheduled for implementation at Laughlin in early October.

The Supply Asset Tracking System will help the 47th Support Group Logistics Squadron to better track parts and supplies moving through the supply chain. This system will track supply assets using advanced technology similar to that of commercial shipping companies like Federal Express and the United Parcel Service.

From the time a part is received at Supply, until a customer signs for the property, the SATS system will be able to track who has moved the property and where it has gone. Parts returned for repair will again be tracked until they are stored as serviceable, or shipped off base for repair or disposal.

A three by four-inch self-adhesive label will replace Department of Defense Form 1348-1A, which is the standard form for issuance of supply property to base individuals and

organizations. This new system will eliminate 90 percent of the DD 1348-1A documents currently being printed by the base supply system. However, DD 1348-1A forms will still be used for property shipped to other bases or sent to the Defense Reutilization Marketing Office.

The system will also require supply customers signing for property under the new system to have a Smart Card. This card will

See 'System,' page 6

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Commanders Corner

47th Operations Group commmander encourages safe, responsible drinking

By Col. George Doran

47th Operations Group commander

What a first two-months in command it has been. Since arriving in the middle of July, the operations group has continued to shine. The Air Education and Training Command operational readiness inspection showcased our hard work and talent. The EXCELLENT rating given to the OG was well deserved and will serve as the benchmark for all future inspections. WELL DONE to all the men and women in the OG. I am very proud of our successes.

On the other hand, the wing is developing a trend that senior leadership is not proud of. Alcohol related incidents have increased to the point where they are starting to impact the mission of this great wing.

According to the 47th Medical Group, alcohol-related incidents are up 800 percent more than at this same time last year. While this would be a phenomenal achievement in your investment portfolio, it is a particularly disturbing statistic that has me very worried.

Incidents have involved personnel in the operations, support and medical groups, on and off base, and in our sister city of Acuna, Mexico. Some of these incidents have involved driving under the influence, some have involved fights, and some have even involved the federal authorities at our border with Mexico.

Each time one of these incidents happens, our stand-

ing in the community is diminished and our relationship with the wonderful folks of Del Rio is hurt. Team XL has to turn this trend around.

Tried and proven programs are not being used. Designated drivers will work if there is one designated. Individual squadrons have great programs in place to take care of their personnel, which also do not appear to be used. The Air Force and Team XL are a family that right now appears to need a little help. It is up to each of us to look out for each other. We all need the courage to take charge of a situation that has or will get out of control. The saying in the commercials, "Friends don't let friends drive drunk" is a good beginning, but I think it needs a little modification. Friends shouldn't let friends drive after drinking – drunk or not. The Texas law of .08 percent alcohol content is very stringent, and it doesn't take much to cross that threshold.

Team XL can, and I'm sure will turn this disturbing trend around, but it will need the involvement of every individual on this base.

Look out for each other, take charge when necessary, call a cab or one of your buddies. Do what needs to be done to stop a situation from developing into another incident or a tragedy. We have proven what can be accomplished when we work together. This trend is no different.

"According to the 47th Medical Group, alcohol related incidents are up 800 percent more than at this same time last year. While this would be a phenomenal achievement in your investment portfolio, it is a particularly disturbing statistic that has me very worried."

All Air Force members should exhibit AF pride



By Gen. Hal Hornburg

AETC commander

"Help Wanted: Air Force members who are proud of their unit, their base, their Air Force and are ready to tell others about it." Yes, we are always looking for top airmen to be recruiters, but this "help wanted" item applies to every airman in America's Air Force.



Hornburg

Air Force recruiters have done an outstanding job this year. We will meet our fiscal 2000 recruiting goal. Considering the economy and "competition" from companies and colleges, it wasn't easy – and it won't get any easier next year.

We are developing an ambitious recruiting campaign with everything from inspiring television and movie theater advertisements to traveling displays and more basic "tools" for our field recruiters.

The Air Force is very active in our local communities, and we will coordinate better with recruiters to be involved in these events. We're adding more field recruiters to increase our visibility in communities and schools and, in the spring, we'll ask all Air Education and Training Command bases to sponsor "career days" to help expose high school students to our base working and living environments. We're also offering enlistment bonuses and college loan repayment programs for many of our career choices.

I'm convinced, though, that the single best recruiting activity is the simplest – every airman taking every opportunity to tell the Air Force story. Simple, face-to-face discussions with

See 'Wanted,' page 11

AETC suffered two alcohol-related mishaps in fiscal year 2000, resulting in three fatalities.

Col. Winfield W. Scott III
Commander
Capt. Angela O'Connell
Public affairs officer
Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit
Editor

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"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."

– 47 FTW motto

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Submissions can be E-mailed to: bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil or reginald.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil

Saving the day: *Baby goes home after rescue by unique Wilford Hall Medical team*

By Dewey Mitchell

Wilford Hall Medical Center Public Affairs

After a history-making rescue effort to save her life, Alexis Kronshagen went home this week with her family for the first time since she was born Aug. 14.

The daughter of Staff Sgt. Christopher Kronshagen and his wife Roseanna, Alexis was their third child, and after Chris witnessed his daughter's arrival in the early morning hours at Camp Lester Naval Hospital on Okinawa, Japan, he went home to get some sleep.

By early afternoon, the hospital staff told the Kronshagens they were trying to stabilize Alexis, and she had a 50 percent chance of surviving. Her own stool during the birthing process had contaminated Alexis' lungs, and she was placed on a ventilator.

Alexis' outlook was not good, and doctors told the Kronshagens she had a 10 percent chance to survive if they took her off the ventilator, but that leaving her on the device too long would damage her lungs.

Her best chance for survival was a heart-lung bypass machine called ECMO, or extracorporeal membrane oxygenator. The procedure allows the lungs the chance to rest and heal themselves.

The deployable ECMO team at Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland AFB, Texas, got the call Aug. 16. The Air Force flagship hospital is a Department of Defense

worldwide referral center for neonatology, and the ECMO teams have deployed on 30 missions since the technology was adopted in 1988.

The 15-member Wilford Hall team – the only team in the world capable of performing long-distance ECMO transports in aircraft – arrived in Okinawa on Aug. 18, and performed the surgery to get Alexis started on the machine. According to Dr. (Maj.) Robert DiGeronimo, the ECMO machine reversed her odds, giving her an 80 percent chance to survive.

The team then transported Alexis to Yokota Air Base, Japan, where they departed in a C-17 Globemaster III for a non-stop 5,700-mile flight to Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, adjacent to Wilford Hall. They arrived Aug. 19, aided by an in-flight refueling by a KC-10 Extender. The flight was the longest rescue mission performed to date by the ECMO team.

After seven days on ECMO, Alexis' lungs had healed sufficiently for her to be taken off, but she went back on a high-frequency ventilator because her right lung had not



(Courtesy photo)

At two weeks old, Alexis Kronshagen was on the ECMO machine, which allowed her lungs a chance to rest and heal.

completely opened up. After another week in the critical care nursery, she had improved enough to move to a less critical nursery.

Then, at three weeks of age, her doctors allowed her to meet the press, and all the television stations in San Antonio covered the story on the evening news, portraying her as a miracle. **See 'Baby,' page 11**

Virtual MPF offers service to separating, retiring members

Military members planning to retire or separate can now complete their initial briefing from the comfort of their office or home computer. This enhanced service is one of seven launched by the Air Force Personnel Center this week with the second installment of the virtual Military Personnel Flight.

The system, which went online for active duty members July 28, is a web-based service platform which allows military members access to personnel services around the clock from anywhere they choose.

New services include:

■ **CONUS Isolated Assignment Program** – This applica-

tion allows members to volunteer for CONUS isolated assignments or request reassignment from a CONUS-isolated location.

■ **Join Spouse Assignment Program** – This application explains program eligibility and ineligibility requirements, documentation and intent codes. It also allows those military members married to military members to fill out the join spouse application.

■ **Permissive PCS Assignment Program** – This application allows members to get information and apply for the Permissive Joint Spouse,

Expanded Permissive and CONUS Assignment Exchange Programs.

■ **Sole Surviving Son or Daughter Assignment Restriction** – This application allows members to review eligibility, document requirements, examples and fill out the program application.

■ **Proof of Service** – This inquiry allows members to print their Proof of Service letter, a document needed by the Veteran's Administration when members are trying to buy a home. It is also used by other various organizations.

■ **Initial Separation/Retire-**

ment Briefing – This application allows members to complete their initial separation/retirement briefing, fill out and print all necessary memorandums, and lists all documents a member needs before reporting to the MPF.

These new applications are only the basics. More than 200 personnel processes are targeted for vMPF service.

"We've taken the Air Force Instruction and put everything a person needs to know into this web-based service program," said Capt. William J. Conley, Operations Officer, Field Operations Branch. "Individuals no longer

need to rely on the MPF technicians to explain these programs. They can get all the information off of the web. This also alleviates the need for individuals to spend time in line trying to pick up an application. They now have the opportunity to fill applications out at their leisure and only report to the MPF to drop them off.

"Not only is the vMPF a convenience for customers, the technology really improves customer service by streamlining the process and standardizing services," Conley said.

Another service being launched this week is the personal **See 'VMPF,' page 11**

Actionline

Call 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also

be printed in the *Border Eagle*. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.



Winfield W. Scott III

Col. Winfield W. Scott III

47th Flying Training Wing commander

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Inspector General	298-5638
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Equal Opportunity	298-5400
FWA hotline	298-4170

Periodontal Disease: the cause of most tooth loss

By Dr. (Capt.) Paul F. T. Ayson

47th Medical Group

Periodontal Disease or Gum Disease is a chronic inflammation of the gums and it's surrounding tissues. It is the major cause of about 70 percent of adult tooth loss, which means it affects three out of every four people at some point in their lifetimes. Here at Laughlin, approximately .31 percent of active-duty personnel have a severe case of this disease and approximately 80 percent have some form of gum disease (from gingivitis to a mild-moderate case of gum disease).

What causes people to have gum disease? Bacterial plaque is the primary cause of this disease. Plaque is a sticky, colorless film that persistently forms around teeth. If plaque is not removed daily by brushing and flossing, it will harden into a rough, porous substance called calculus or tartar. By leaving plaque and tartar on your teeth, the bacteria living in the plaque will release toxins that will irritate your gums, and eventually cause the breakdown of healthy fibers that hold your gums tightly to your teeth, thereby producing a periodontal pocket. This periodontal pocket will serve as a reservoir for the bacteria and its toxins. As the disease progresses, pockets will get deeper and the bacteria will move down and continue to destroy the bone supporting the teeth where it would eventually lead to tooth loss.

Aside from bacterial plaque, there are other factors that may lead to periodontal disease. For example, genetics or heredity, as well as lifestyle

choices can do this. Also, a diet low in nutrients can diminish the body's ability to fight infection. Smoker's and spit tobacco users are at a higher risk compared to their non-tobacco user counterparts. People with uncontrolled diabetes are more prone to gum disease because they are more likely to get an infection.

So, what are warning signs of this disease? Things to look for include red, swollen or tender gums, bleeding while brushing or flossing, gums that pull away from teeth, loose or separating teeth, pus between gums and teeth, persistent bad breath and change in your bite.

These are just some of the warning signs of this disease. While patients are advised to look for these signs, there might not be any type of pain or discomfort until the disease has spread to the point where no teeth can be salvaged. This is why patients are advised to get frequent or regular dental checkups.

To prevent this disease, make sure you exercise a daily brushing and flossing routine, as well as attend regular dental checkups. These are the best ways to minimize the risk.

Your dentist can design a personalized program of home care to meet your needs. If your dentist doesn't perform periodic periodontal examinations, you should request one. Children should be examined as well because there are rare juvenile forms of this disease. For active-duty personnel, every annual exam you get includes a screening for this disease so you don't have to worry about asking your dentist on base.



Photo by Amanda Stewart

Senior Airman Johnathan McKeever, dental assistant for the 47th Medical Group, cleans the teeth of Senior Airman Jennifer Nalls, XL Fitness Center, during a bi-annual cleaning session at the base dental clinic Wednesday. Regular cleaning and good oral hygiene can limit the possibilities of contracting Periodontal disease. For more information, or to express concerns about Periodontal disease, call the base dental clinic at 6331 to set up an evaluation appointment.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month kicks off in October

The Life Skills Clinic will be sponsoring an open house beginning at 8:45 a.m. Oct 3 in the 47th Medical Group conference room.

Col. Skip Scott, 47th Flying Training Wing commander and Dora Alcalá, Del Rio mayor, will sign a proclamation at the event designating October as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month."

The Life Skills Clinic will have exhibits and snacks available for visitors. Below is the schedule of events:

8:45 a.m. – All participants in place.

9 a.m. – Introduction of distinguished visitors.

9:05 a.m. – Introduction of Life Skills staff and the open house theme: "Domestic Abuse Awareness Month."

9:10 a.m. – Introduction of the Family Advocacy Program.

9:15 a.m. – Reading of the proclamation.

9:20 a.m. – Signing of proclamation by Col. Skip Scott and Mayor Dora Alcalá.

9:30 – 11 a.m. – Tour of Life Skills Clinic and educational booths; coffee, juice and food will be provided.

Below is the proclamation that will be signed:

"Whereas, domestic violence is widespread and 1 million incidents are reported by Americans each year; and whereas, more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boy-friends in this country every day; and whereas, children who grow up in violent homes are believed to be abused and neglected at a rate higher than the national average; and whereas, domestic violence affects the bottom line of almost every corporation, organization, and governmental agency today; and whereas, domestic violence costs businesses billions of dollars every year in loss of productivity, absenteeism, and healthcare; and whereas, domestic violence is a problem which employers should train themselves and their staff to recognize the early

See 'Abuse,' page 13

Mystery medal: Have you ever seen a Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal?

By Capt. Andreas K. Weseman

47th Flying Training Wing Safety

I was wearing my service dress at the last Quarterly Awards Luncheon, when I was asked about the unfamiliar ribbon below my Humanitarian Service Medal. I responded that this was the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal. No one I talked to at the luncheon had heard of this medal. So, what is this Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal?

The MOVSM, one of nine Defense Service Awards, was authorized by Executive Order 12830 for all members of the United States Armed Forces and their reserve components performing outstanding volunteer service. The service must be of a sustained, direct and consequential nature. Any military member, subsequent to Dec. 31, 1992, may be eligible for this award. The requirements that must be met to qualify for the MOVSM are: The service must be to the civilian community, to include the military family community; must be significant in nature and produce tangible results; must reflect

favorably on the Service Member's Military Department and the Department of Defense; must be of a sustained and direct nature.

The Department of Defense Regulation 1348.33-M states that: "The MOVSM is intended to recognize exceptional community support over time, not a single act or achievement. Further, it is intended to honor direct support of community activities. For the purposes of this award, attending membership meetings or social events of a community service group is not considered qualifying service, while manning a community crisis action telephone line for a sustained period of time is considered qualifying service. The overall level of volunteer participation and impact of an individual's community service is key to determining whether the award of the MOVSM is justified."

If an individual gives a sustained level of volunteer service through successive tours or extended tours at the same location, the consideration may be given to awarding a MOVSM for each extended

See 'Medal,' page 13

Question of the week

What was your favorite toy as a child?



"A toy sawed-off shotgun I used to play cops and robbers with."

**Airman 1st Class
Randy Darden**
47th Communications Squadron



"An Easy Bake Oven. I would use it to make mud pies when I ran out of cake mix."

Linell Bedford
Base commissary



"My Big Wheel. I used to ride it all over the place."

Terrian Horsey
Family member



"The Styling Head Barbie. I loved fixing her hair and putting on her makeup."

Brandie Moore
Book Mark Library



From the Blotter

(From Sept. 20 – 27)



■ An individual telephoned the law enforcement desk reporting a minor accident between two privately owned vehicles. Two security forces units were briefed and dispatched. The damage to the vehicle consisted of a dent in the front grill area. The estimated cost of the damage is unknown.

■ The law enforcement desk received an emergency 911 call from an individual stating his wife had fainted due to disturbing news. Two units were briefed and dispatched. The wife was treated by medical personnel at her residence and released.

■ An individual came to the law enforcement desk reporting damage to his 1993 Chevrolet Silverado. A patrolman was briefed and assumed control of the situation. The individual stated in writing that he noticed the damage while walking to his vehicle from Bldg. 241. The damage consisted of a large dent to the right rear quarter panel and was estimated at approximately \$600. No suspects have been identified.

■ An individual contacted the law enforcement desk and requested assistance in gaining access to his vehicle. A patrolman was briefed, responded and verified ownership. An Air Education and Training Com-

mand Form 800/Release of Liability was accomplished and access was gained with no damage to the vehicle.

■ On Sunday, an individual telephoned the law enforcement desk requesting assistance in filing a missing person report on her husband. She stated her husband had been missing since Sept. 22. Two patrols were briefed and dispatched and a statement was accomplished. She stated she tried to contact her husband by calling his cell phone and paging. She was referred to Life Skills until the situation was resolved. The husband reported for work the following day.

Tip of the day: When sponsoring special occasions or meetings requiring personnel not normally authorized base access without sponsorship, please forward a typed list to security forces at least 24 hours in advance with the following information: State the event, phone number of the sponsor, date, what time the event starts and ends and the full names of all the non-base affiliated individuals who will attend. Please tell them they must have a current drivers license, proof of insurance and vehicle registration. If you have any questions, contact Master Sgt. Jimmie A. Davis at 298-5248.

‘Cancer,’ from page 1
found a woman’s risk of dying from breast cancer increases by 25 percent if she smokes. Smoking is also known to cause lung cancer.
☐ Exercise regularly. One study of 1,000 women under age 40 found those who exercised at

least four hours a week lowered their risk of breast cancer by 60 percent. Working out one to three hours weekly lowers the risk by 30 percent.
☐ If you drink alcohol, do so in moderation. More than 40 studies have linked alcohol abuse to breast cancer.

Don’t be frightened if you detect a lump or other changes during a breast self-exam; 80 percent of the lumps women find aren’t cancerous. But, you should visit your doctor as soon as possible so a professional diagnosis can be made.
If your doctor examines you

and suspects breast cancer, you’ll need to have a mammogram and other tests done. If breast cancer is confirmed, you should find out as much as you can about treatment options. Don’t hesitate to get several medical opinions and discuss them with family and friends. Find a doctor who’s will-

ing to counsel you, give information and help you make decisions about your treatment.
The American Cancer Society has programs designed specifically for breast cancer victims and their families. Joining a support group can also help. Meeting other women with this disease can provide you with emotional and psychological support.

The Health and Wellness Center will be promoting several events during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Booths will be set up at the Base Exchange and commissary Oct. 13–14. A 7K walk/run, co-sponsored by the XL Fitness Center, will be held Oct. 28.

Registration will start at 8:30 a.m. at the parking lot next to the base football field. Prizes will be given to all participants.

(Courtesy HAWC staff)

For more information on breast cancer and upcoming events, call the HAWC at 6464 or 6463.

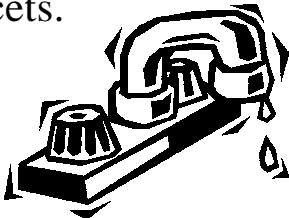
‘System,’ from page 1

store customers’ personal information and the types of transactions they are authorized to sign for, such as equipment items or classified material. To obtain a card, the customer’s information will need to be loaded into a database. Filling in a SATS Smart Card Issue Request Form will do this. This form is available at Customer Service in Bldg. 77. Customer Service will notify the customer when his card is available and ready for collection.

If you have any questions about the system or would like more information, call Robert Goodwin at 4318.

Conserve water

Replace washers in leaky faucets.



The XLer

Hometown: Gallatin, Tenn.
Family: Wife, Susan; daughter, Shamille; son Christian.
Time at Laughlin: 6 months.
Time in service: 13 years.
Why did you join the Air Force: To serve my country and have the opportunity to travel.
Name one way to improve life at Laughlin: Enhance the mini-mall; for example, get a dry cleaners, Robin Hood, Anthony’s Pizza and Baskin Robbins.
Greatest accomplishment: Answering the call to the ministry.
Bad habit: Stubbornness.
Motto: “Either get busy dying or get busy living.” (Quote from the movie Shawshank Redemption).
Favorite beverage: Cranberry juice and ginger ale mixed.
Favorite food: Lasagna and garlic bread.
Hobbies: Traveling and playing sports.
If you could spend one hour with an historical figure, who would it be and why? Jesus Christ. He gave the best example on how to live and understand people.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Chaplain (Capt.) Richard Black
Base Chapel

Where are they now?

Name: 1st Lt. Neal B. Sheeran.
Class/Date of graduation from Laughlin: Class 98-10, June 12, 1998.
Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at: The A-10 Warthog, Eielson AFB, Ala.
Mission of your aircraft? Close air support, forward air control and combat search and rescue.
What do you like most about your current aircraft? The A-10 is the best at what it does – putting bombs on target and instilling fear into the hearts and minds of the enemy.
What do you dislike most about your current air-
craft? The A-10 increasingly lacks funding.
What was the most important thing you learned at Laughlin besides learning to fly? Having a cold one with pilots that have been there and done that – that is where the important lessons are sometimes learned.
What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin? A solo on the wing in the T-37.
What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin? Once you get out of pilot training, nobody is going to care about how many downgrades you got on your contact sheet.



(U.S. Air Force photo of an A-10 Warthog)



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad
Pettit

Cool ride

Crystal Walters, wife of Capt. Devin Walters, 86th Flying Training Squadron, wheels her son Hunter around in a wagon, complete with umbrella, to beat the more than 100 degree heat Friday. The high temperature Monday was 75 degrees. Laughlin members can expect cooler temperatures by late October.

filler

Winged and ready: SUPT Class 00-15 graduates today



Capt. Keith R. Franke
C-141—McChord AFB, Wash. (AFRC)
Class Leader



Capt. Travis S. Wilds
F-16—Luke AFB, Ariz.
Assistant Class Leader



Capt. James W. Greathouse
C-21—Yokota Air Base, Japan



Capt. Brent D. Helinski
KC-135—Fairchild AFB, Wash.



Capt. Kenneth M. Jambor
C-17—McChord AFB, Wash.



Capt. Bryan D. Miller
C-130—Little Rock AFB, Ark.



Capt. Joseph C. Patrick
C-5—Dover AFB, Del.



Capt. Robert C. Peck
C-130—Dyess AFB, Texas



Capt. Robert W. Truax
C-141—McGuire AFB, N.J.



1st Lt. William S. Cheal
A-10—Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



1st Lt. Alan J. Hietpas
F-16—Luke AFB, Ariz.



1st Lt. Adam W. Kerkman
T-37—Laughlin AFB, Texas



1st Lt. Benjamin J. Ward
KC-135—MacDill AFB, Fla.



1st Lt. Kara M. Winn
C-17—McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. James E. Brunner
T-37—Laughlin AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. Eray Cayiroglu
F-16C—Turkey



2nd Lt. Kevin D. Dombay
KC-10—McGuire AFB, N.J. (AFRC)



2nd Lt. Allan M. Grandgenett
C-21—Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Enrico Maiorino
TBD—Italy



2nd Lt. Davide Mariani
TBD—Italy



2nd Lt. Matthew C. Martin
C-9—Scott AFB, Ill.



2nd Lt. Ryan J. Mehus
F-16—Madison, Wis. (ANG)



2nd Lt. Mark R. Pauly
F-15E—Seymour Johnson

Wing enlisted corps dines combat style

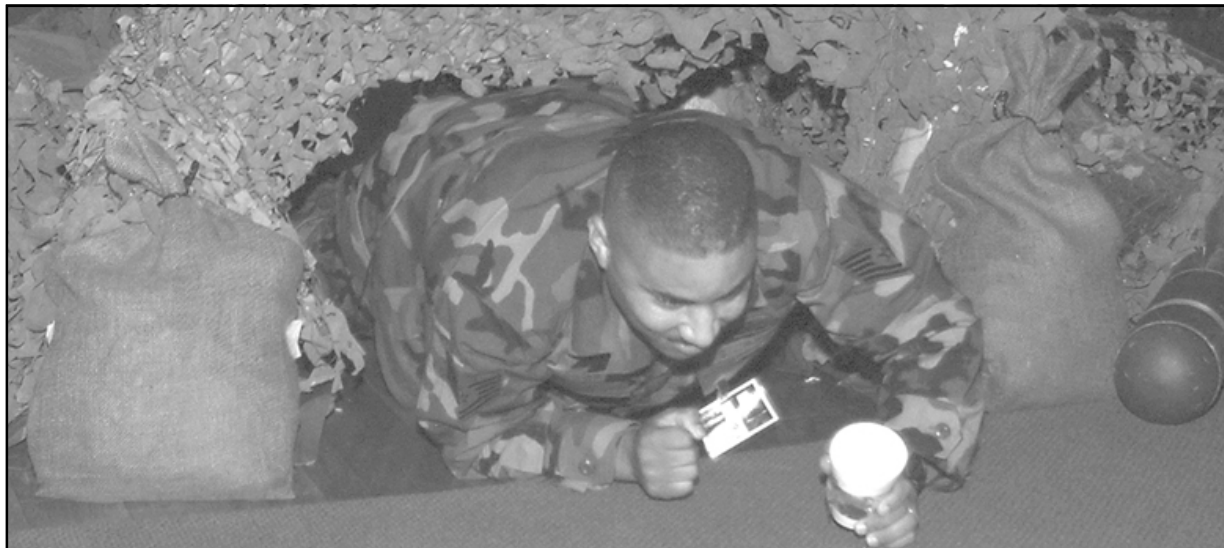


(Photos by Dave Niebergall)



Members of the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Precision Drill Team perform during the enlisted combat dining-out Saturday. Assigned

to the 11th Wing at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C., the team performs for military and public events throughout the world.



The Sergeant at Arms, Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Wallace, 47th Security Forces Squadron, demonstrates how to navigate the obstacle course leading to the "dreaded" grog bowls. As Sergeant at Arms, Wallace was also responsible for the presentation of the untouched sword.

Staff Sgt. Charles Jones, 47th Flying Training Wing, and Tech Sgt. Beth Smith, 47th Flying Training Wing legal office, prepare the grog bowls. Drinking from the grog was punishment for those who violated the rules of the mess.



Tech. Sgt. (Ret.) George Watson, Sr., an original Tuskegee Airman, shows the nearly 150 people in attendance a leather bomber jacket—one of many souvenirs from his 26 years of military service. Watson, who was guest speaker at the dining out, entertained the audience with stories from his military career, including "operation fuel tanker."

‘Wanted,’ from page 2
someone about what you do, your responsibilities, your accomplishments, challenges and rewards are the most convincing ways to encourage people to consider joining the Air Force or recommending someone else join.

We’re not asking you to paint an idyllic picture. There are deployments, long hours of hard work, tough problems and issues to solve, and our pay, while competitive, won’t make us multimillionaires. However, there are tremendous benefits.

The Community College of the Air Force and our commitment to education and developing skills in high technology are examples.

There are even more important benefits that people outside the Air Force may not appreciate unless they hear it from you – our dedication to excellence, commitment to integrity and a way of life dedicated to service to our nation. Our core values are pluses above and beyond many other endeavors.

Relate your personal experiences in the terms your friends

or people you meet can understand. Tell your Air Force story.

Perhaps you’re the first in your family to earn a college degree and the Air Force helped make that possible, or you’ve traveled to places your friends have only dreamed about and the Air Force sent you there. Maybe you operate one of our premier weapons systems, or you train airmen who will be responsible for maintaining multi-million-dollar aircraft.

Each of you has a great story and I encourage you to tell it to your friends, neighbors and

family members. If friends or family visit, show them around your base and workplace.

Stand proud while sharing your experiences at a high school reunion, an alma mater visit or a Sunday church service back home.

The Recruiter Assistance Program authorizes active duty Air Force members up to 12 days of non-chargeable leave to help field recruiters. This can include assisting at a recruiting booth or talking one-on-one with Delayed Entry Program applicants. I encourage everyone,

especially commanders, command chief master sergeants and first sergeants, to participate and promote the program.

No matter when or where, don’t hesitate to tell the Air Force story. It’s your story and your Air Force.

Editor’s Note: More information on the Recruiter Assistance Program is available at local recruiting squadrons as well as on the Air Force Recruiting Service’s Web site at www.rs.af.mil under the “We Are All Recruiters” link.

(Courtesy AETCNS)

‘Baby,’ from page 3

ing her survival against incredible odds.

“You see the summary of your benefits printed out for you each year – you go to sick call two or three times a year, and you take all this for granted,” Kronshagen said. “But then something like this happens – and it literally saves your life. We know she would not have survived if it were not for this team. It’s really there for you when you need it.”

(Courtesy AFPN)



Recycle...

‘VMPF,’ from page 3

data surf capability. Once this feature is on-line, individuals will have the chance to review everything from their individual and performance report data to duty assignment and qualification data – everything they normally review on their “Personal Data” printout provided by their commander support staff or unit orderly room.

“Although all changes must be made through the MPF at this point, we are working toward programs that will allow customers to update data over the web,” Conley said.

Individuals who wish to view these applications must create an account for vMPF by going to www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/km/vMPF/vMPFHelpHome.htm.

‘Medal,’ from page 4

period of service.

One final important qualification: the service must be voluntary in nature. It cannot be detailed, tasked, nor performed as part of a military mission, such as a unit project.

On July 2, 1996, the Secretary of the Air Force delegated the approval authority for the award of the MOVSM to the group commanders. To submit an individual for the award of the MOVSM, type up a letter that includes the following:

- Nominee’s name, grade, Social Security number and unit.
- Period for which nominee is being considered.
- Description of community service. Provide data for each community activity supported, although no more than one activity is required. Include the name of the community activity, address, phone number and point of contact. Also include a brief description of the mission and population served by this activity.

The heart of the letter should be the next section – a short description of the service rendered, the impact and results achieved, and approximately how many hours volunteered.

- List the total hours served in all activities during the service.

■ Place the supervisors name, grade, duty title, and date in a signature block at the appropriate location at the bottom of the letter of recommendation for award.

■ Include the squadron commander’s or equivalent’s comments and the following certification statement above their signature block: “This individual performed outstanding volunteer service to the community of a sustained, direct and consequential nature and is recommended for the award of the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal. Their service throughout this period was honorable.”

- The final lines will be the signature block of the approval authority.

■ You may attach letters of appreciation and awards or other recognition from the activities where the individual served.

I hope that many more individuals who give of themselves will take the time to meet with their supervisors and tell them what volunteer service they

have performed at Laughlin.

If you know of someone who has earned this award, or if you yourself have given qualifying service, type up the letter! Anyone, regardless of rank, position, or level of responsibility, can earn the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal!

‘Abuse,’ from page 4

warning signals of an abusive relationship in order to intervene earlier and prevent situations that can escalate or become lethal; and whereas, employers are challenged to create a safe environment for abuse victims in which they can disclose informa-

tion about partner violence; enforce existing restraining orders; work with local domestic violence agencies to provide information about counseling, referrals and legal options; and challenge attitudes and values that tolerate or encourage partner violence; and whereas, domestic

violence is a problem in all communities regardless of race, ethnicity, religion or age.” Now, therefore, I, Dora G. Alcala, Mayor of Del Rio and I, Col. Skip Scott, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, do hereby proclaim October 2000 as “Domestic Violence Awareness Month.”

Laughlin's NFL: Gridiron Gurus								Week 5		
PLAYERS	Bruce Bond	Diane Bond	Eric Gonzales	Michael Houston	David Isbell	Lavelle Jenkins	Eric Linneman	Niels Roorda	Amanda Stewart	Chad Workman
LAST WEEK'S SCORES	9	7	7	11	9	8	8	10	9	10
OVERALL SCORES	9	7	7	11	9	8	8	10	9	10
BALTIMORE@CLEVELAND	BAL	BAL	BAL	BAL	BAL	BAL	BAL	BAL	BAL	BAL
DALLAS@CAROLINA	DAL	DAL	DAL	CAR	DAL	CAR	CAR	CAR	CAR	CAR
INDIANAPOLIS@BUFFALO	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND
MINNESOTA@DETROIT	MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN	DET	MIN	DET	MIN	MIN
NEW YORK GIANTS@TENNESSEE	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN
PITTSBURGH@JACKSONVILLE	JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX
SAN DIEGO@ST. LOUIS	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL
MIAMI@CINCINNATI	MIA	MIA	MIA	MIA	MIA	MIA	MIA	MIA	MIA	MIA
NEW ENGLAND@DENVER	DEN	DEN	DEN	DEN	DEN	DEN	DEN	N.E.	N.E.	DEN
ARIZONA@SAN FRANCISCO	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	ARI	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.
CHICAGO@GREEN BAY	G.B.	G.B.	G.B.	CHI	CHI	G.B.	G.B.	G.B.	G.B.	CHI
TAMPA BAY@WASHINGTON	WAS	WAS	WAS	T.B.	T.B.	WAS	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.
ATLANTA@PHILADELPHIA	PHI	PHI	ATL	PHI	ATL	ATL	ATL	ATL	ATL	PHI
SEATTLE@KANSAS CITY	K.C.	K.C.	K.C.	SEA	SEA	K.C.	K.C.	SEA	K.C.	SEA

Intramural football season begins

Laughlin's intramural flag football season begins Monday. The season is scheduled to end Dec. 5. All games are scheduled for Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Below are some of the season's purposes and rules:

Purpose: To provide organized athletic competition, unit esprit de corps and quality of life programs to the units at Laughlin.

Type of competition: League competition will be single round robin. The league standings will be determined by a win/loss record and will be posted on a daily basis.

Rules: All kicks/punts are protected with no rushing.

No diving: Pursuers are allowed to retrieve flags by chasing down offense only.

Kick Offs: Kick offs are required to start at each half or following a touchdown, field goal or safety. Kick off tees are optional and are provided by the XL Fitness Center.

Kicking team: Kick offs will be executed from the 20-yard line. Players on the kicking team may not cross the 20-yard line until the ball has been kicked. If the kick goes out of bounds in the field of play a 10 yard penalty will be given. Kick offs must travel at least **10 yards**; then, the receiving team may return the kick.

RECEIVING TEAM: Once a player on the receiving team has received the ball, all other players on the receiving team **must stop**. (No down field blocking).

The receiving team can advance the ball after it touches the ground, **if** the person advancing it is the first person to touch the ball on the kick off. The ball becomes dead once it has been touched and strikes the ground.

Mouth pieces are strongly encouraged for those choosing to participate.

For more information, call the XL Fitness Center at 5251.

Laughlin History

Q: When did para-sail training become part of the Laughlin Undergraduate Pilot Training program?

- (a) 1961
- (b) 1966
- (c) 1980

The correct answer is ... (b). Para-sailing was tested at Laughlin and officially made part of the training at all UPT and UNT bases in January, 1966.

HCAC meeting

The Health Consumers Advisory Council is a forum for exchanging information between the providers and consumers of health care at Laughlin. Representatives from most base organizations and from the retired population meet with members of the Clinic Executive Committee once a quarter on an informal basis.

The next meeting of the Council will be held at 1 p.m. Oct. 6 in the wing conference room. Don't miss this opportunity to express your satisfaction with, or concerns about health care at Laughlin.

For more information, or to indicate attendance, call Mina Stover at 6311.

Prep course

The Life Skills Clinic and the Family Advocacy Program is offering a Couples Communication: Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program class. The scheduled dates for the class are on the following Wednesdays: Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1.

For more information, call 6422.

Autumn arts and crafts

The Laughlin Officers' Spouses' Club will host an Autumn Arts and Crafts Bazaar 3-8 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at the Fiesta Center.

For more information, call Jane Juselis at 298-0224.

Debt collection

There is now a new debt collection assistance program to help eligible Tricare beneficiaries with Tricare-related problems. The debt collection assistance officer is the single point of contact for these types of issues. This individual can help you with such issues with collection agencies and incorrect billing problems.

The debt collection assistance officer at Laughlin is James McAllister.

For more information, call 6350.

Care packages

The 47th Security Forces Squadron has recently deployed 15 people to Southeast Asia. A 13 person team was also sent to Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia for 90 days. The Saudi team is mostly people in their early 20's; two are married with children and four are females.

In order to help these people who are out there providing force protection for the Air Force, members are encouraged to help fill care boxes for members of this team.

Care boxes can be picked up by the 47th Security Forces Squadron through Oct. 13 by calling Maj. Joel Dickinson at 298-5190 or 298-5100. Boxes can also be dropped off at Bldg. 140.

Some suggested items to send are microwave popcorn, powder drinks with sugar added, containers to mix powdered drinks in, candy, jerky, chewing gum, homemade cookies, nuts, magazines, copies of the Border Eagle and letters expressing support.

For more information, call 5100.

Report of survey

A Report of Survey is a formal investigation that assesses monetary liability against individuals who have lost, damaged, or destroyed government property. It can also relieve them from liability if there is no evidence of negligence, willful misconduct, or deliberate unauthorized use of government property.

To learn more about the Report of Survey process and initial investigations, ask for your operating guide today.

For more information, call Claudio Sotelo, Sr. or Kathleen Donnett at 5148.

Eagle Grant

The Aerospace Education Foundation, an affiliate of the Air Force Association, is offering education grants to active-duty Air Force members who graduated from the Community College of the Air Force between March 1 and Aug. 31 and who are currently enrolled in an accredited program leading to a baccalaureate degree.

Applications can be obtained from the base Education Services Office. The application deadline is Oct 13.

For more information call 732-5520.

Volunteers needed

The Fiesta Community Center is now in production for Fall Review IV...Saturday Night Fever. The family talent show will be held Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. in the Fiesta Center ballroom.

The doors open at 6:30 p.m. There is no cost to see the show, but seating is limited. The show will feature songs and dance routines from the 1970s and 1980s. If you have a musical, theatrical or dance talent that you would like to share with the Laughlin community, come by the Fiesta Center Ballroom on Thursdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. for open rehearsals.

Volunteers are needed for technical support, such as stage, lights and sound. No experience is required.

For more information, call the Fiesta Center at 5474.

Housing maintenance

Family Housing Maintenance has begun spraying wood preservatives on privacy fences between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will finish in approximately 38 days.

Approximately one hour of work time and four hours drying time are expected. Please remove all personal items from fences.

The product is approved by the Environmental Protection Agency. However, as a safety precaution,



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Showing support!

Col. Skip Scott, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, fills out a Combined Federal Campaign slip in his office Wednesday. The CFC is a six-week long fundraising campaign that raises money for 2,000 local, state, national and international charities. Laughlin's overall goal for this year is \$50,500 and 100 percent employee contact.

please keep children and pets away from the fence during this time.

Look on your door for a flyer noting the day your fence will be sprayed.

For more information, call Wendell Sparks at 298-4358 or 298-5018.

BCAC assignments

The Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator is a congressionally mandated assignment to optimize the Customer Service Program.

This program allows you access to a trained BCAC staff member who will use automated systems to thoroughly research and respond to your inquiries in required time frames, thereby reducing the need for duplicative inquiries to legislators, inspector generals and other federal agencies.

The 47th Medical Group's BCAC is James McAllister. For more information, call 6350.

US 277 Road construction

Preliminary work on the reconstruction of a portion of US 277 in Val Verde County has begun. As a result, all North and Southbound traffic on US 277 will be detoured through Rocksprings through SH 55 and US 377.

The project is expected to last eight months. The traveling public is asked to drive with extreme caution and observe all traffic safety signs and markings around construction areas.